

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 02315 310916Z

ACTION EA-12

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CH, PINT

SUBJ: PEOPLE'S DAILY READER CHARGES PEKING COVER-UP

REFS: A. PEKING 2225; B. PEKING 893

1. SUMMARY. IN A LETTER REPRINTED IN THE JULY 30 PEOPLE'S DAILY, A RESIDENT OF PEKING ACCUSES THE PEKING MUNICIPAL LEADERSHIP OF DRAGGING ITS FEET ON INVESTIGATING AND EXPOSING EVENTS SURROUNDING PROMOTION OF "ABSURD THEORIES" DURING THE GANG OF FOUR ERA. WHILE THE LETTER DOES NOT MENTION HIM BY NAME, IT APPEARS TO BE DIRECTED AT PEKING BOSS WU TEH -- THE TARGET OF RUMORS AND POSTER ATTACKS SINCE THE PURGE OF THE GANG OF FOUR IN 1976. END SUMMARY.

2. PEKING BOSS WU TEH APPEARS TO HAVE COME UNDER INDIRECT ATTACK IN A LETTER WRITTEN BY YANG HSI-YEN AND REPRINTED IN THE JULY 30 PEOPLE'S DAILY. TITLED "WHO IS THE CONCEALER?", THE LETTER APPEARED ON PAGE THREE AND IS MARKED BY A SPECIAL BORDER, SIGNIFYING ITS IMPORTANCE. WHILE YANG IS NOT IDENTICAL TO THE BOSS, THE LETTER IS NOT IDENTICAL TO THE BOSS. CONFIDENTIAL

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TIFIED, HE TELLS US THAT HE COMES FROM PEKING'S WESTERN DISTRICT, WHICH HAS BEEN THE SCENE OF SEVERAL WALL POSTERS IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS ATTACKING WU TEH (BY NAME) FOR HIS FAILURE TO ADMIT HIS ERRORS IN CARRYING OUT GANG OF FOUR EDUCATION POLICIES (REFTELS).

3. SIMILARLY, YANG STARTS HIS LETTER BY WELCOMING THE MAY

21 ARTICLE ON EXPOSING THE GANG OF FOUR'S REACTIONARY LINE IN EDUCATION. HOWEVER, HE SAYS THAT THIS IS NOT ENOUGH. YANG TELLS US THAT HE HAS HAD A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WHICH RELATES TO THE SAME PROBLEM. HE SAYS THAT THE GANG OF FOUR WAS "SMASHED" 20 MONTHS AGO AND ASKS WHY THE TRUTH BEHIND THESE INCIDENTS HAS NOT BEEN REVEALED. "AFTER ALL, WHO IS COVERING UP (THE TRUTH)?".

4. YANG SAYS THAT IN 1976 A MEETING WAS CALLED BY THE PEKING REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS THEORY. THIS MEETING, HE STATES, WAS A DELIBERATELY PLANNED CONSPIRACY TO PROMULGATE THE ABSURD THEORIES OF "THAT DIEHARD" OF THE GANG OF FOUR IN LIAONING, IMPLYING THAT SOME PEKING MUNICIPAL LEADERS HAD DIRECT TIES TO MAO YUAN-HSIN IN LIAONING. YANG STATES THAT HE ATTENDED THE MEETING CALLED BY THE PEKING WESTERN DISTRICT COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS "ABSURD THEORIES" SUCH AS THE NEW CHANGES IN CLASS RELATIONSHIPS AND THE INEVITABILITY OF THE "DEMOCRATIC FACTION" CHANGING INTO "CAPITALIST ROADERS". NOBODY UNDERSTOOD THESE THEORIES, HE SAYS, SO THE CITY-WIDE DISCUSSION MEETING CHANGED THE TOPICS TO INCLUDE SUCH THEORIES AS "ON THE THREE STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE CAPITALIST CLASS" AND "ON THE PRODUCTIVE ECONOMIC BASE OF THE CAPITALISTS INSIDE THE PARTY".

5. YANG THEN POINTS THE FINGER DIRECTLY AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE MUNICIPAL LEADERSHIP. HE SAYS THAT MANY RE-CONFIDENTIAL

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SPONSIBLE COMRADES ATTENDED AND SPOKE AT THIS MEETING. AFTER THE MEETING, THEIR SPEECHES WERE PUBLISHED BY THE PEKING PEOPLE'S PRESS. AS A RESULT, THE "POISON OF THIS EVENT" WAS SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, AND THE CITY HAS NOT EVEN ONCE OFFERED AN EXPLANATION. THE EVENT IS EVEN DOWN-PLAYED, HE MAINTAINS. "THE UPPER LEVELS (SHANG-BIAN) HAVEN'T MOVED ON THIS PROBLEM AND WE IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT ARE NOT EVEN ALLOWED TO SPEAK OF THIS EVENT." YANG CONCLUDES HIS LETTER BY ASKING THE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT OF PEOPLE'S DAILY TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION TO EXPLAIN THIS INCIDENT TO THE "BROAD MASSES" WHO HAVE BEEN KEPT IN THE DARK AND TO "LOOSEN THE BOIL ON OUR HEARTS".

6. COMMENT: WHILE YANG DOES NOT IDENTIFY WU TEH BY NAME, PEKING RESIDENTS WILL MORE THAN LIKELY INTERPRET HIS ACCUSATIONS AS DIRECT CRITICISM OF THE PEKING PARTY BOSS. DURING THE PAST EIGHTEEN MONTHS, WU TEH HAS BEEN ATTACKED IN WALL POSTERS AND HAS BEEN OPENLY CRITICIZED BY PEKING RESIDENTS FOR HIS GANG OF FOUR CONNECTIONS. PEOPLE'S DAILY REFERENCES TO A "COVER-UP" IN PEKING SUGGESTS THAT WU'S STATUS IS ONCE AGAIN COMING UNDER REVIEW AND IT SEEMS LIKELY ANTI-WU TEH FORCES ARE POISED FOR YET ANOTHER ASSAULT ON WU'S STATUS

AS PEKING'S MAJOR. WOODCOCK

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